MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2, 2015/2016

PCI 0015 CREATIVE ENGLISH

(All groups)

3 MARCH 2016
9.00 AM- 11.00 AM

(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This question paper consists of **EIGHT (8)** printed pages with **TWO** sections.
2. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Write **ALL** your answers in the Answer Booklet.

SECTION A: LITERATURE [40 MARKS]

Question I: Literary Appreciation (20 marks)

Instructions: Based on the selected short stories, answer **ALL** questions.

1. State any 1 character and explain the characterization from the short story ***Jasmine's Father*** by Paul Tan. (5 marks)

2. Describe the setting and the social condition for ***Her Three Days*** by Sembene Ousmane. (5 marks)

3. Why is Mrs. Ulgine Barrows hated by many in the story **The Catbird Seat** by James Thurber? (5 marks)

4. What is the main theme from the story **A Gift of Magi by** O' Henry? Provide details to support the answer. (5 marks)

Question II: Short Story (10 marks)

Instructions: Read the excerpt below and answer all the questions that follow.

Naukar (adapted)
Anya Sitaram

The Sun beamed relentlessly on the streets of Calcutta as the rickshaw-wallah toiled his way down Southern Avenue, the wooden shafts of the rickshaw rubbing against his protruding shoulder-blades and scraping away at his skin, threatening to expose his bones completely through wet, pink sores. With his thin neck straining forward, his brown hands swollen by the heat, gripping the shafts of the wagon, the rickshaw-wallah quickened his sticks of legs from an unsteady trot into a gallop and he and his livelihood careened round a bend towards Lake Gardens. Every now and again he tossed his sweating tendrils to unsettle the flies that buzzed around his head like faithful satellites. Julia Banerjee shut her eye as the rickshaw narrowly missed a bus, which screamed pass within two inches of them. The hood of the vehicle, which had been put up to protect her from the sun, was providing to be more of a nuisance than a comfort for it was too low for her long limbs. Only if she bent double and craned her neck forward from under the hood could she see out of the jolting carriage.

If she sat upright, her vision was restricted to the rickshaw- wallahs puny waist, puny hips and thin poles of legs. She thought it was almost obscene the way his angular kneecaps, which were the widest part of his legs, jutted out.

She hated travelling by rickshaw, not only because it was uncomfortable but also because it was painful to see a man reduced to the level of a beast as he labored with

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the task of transporting another richer, fatter, more fortunate being to her destination. Rickshaw-wallahs rarely lived past middle age. But if she did not travel by rickshaw, she would be depriving a man of his income, her husband had told her.

Her husband Nilkant Banerjee had been a Marxist, in his college days, a fine specimen of the earnest, vociferous, khadi-swathed intelligentsia prolific in Calcutta. Having completed his degree, he had joined Ashok Leyland and after several years had been sent to England to get some managerial experience, before returning to India to embark on more demanding tasks, including those of being a husband; for during his stay in the Midlands he had fallen in love with a tall, freckled and very fair English rose. His marriage to a foreigner had been his last act of rebellion before he succumbed to the cosy allure of affluence.

Julia had been in India for nearly a year now but had not yet grown accustomed to her new home; everything was still remarkable. Even Nilkant seemed different in his own surroundings – more arrogant, more conventional than he'd been in England. Perhaps it was just the confidence of being at home.

Sometimes she just wanted to shut herself away in a cool room and forget, for India had sharpened her awareness, exposed her senses to a bombardment of sights, smells, sounds which terrified, amazed and sickened her. She was always apprehensive of venturing out into the roads swarming with people, animals, cars, buses, trams; roads choked with chaos. She would return home trembling and exhausted after an outing, having spent her nerves and energy dodging the clutching, hungry hands of hawkers, beggars, street Romeos, all thinking a white women easy prey. Going into the city and back to her house again involved the opening and shutting of senses, like a wound that is never given a chance to heal but half-closed, half-dried, is ripped open again, by the thing that caused it in the first place.

Calcutta reeked of poverty, death and confusion. Everywhere buildings were crumbling into skeletal ghosts of the Raj. Beggars littered the streets, and those who were too weak to beg collapsed on the pavements and lay prone for days, while skinny dogs sniffed at them and people stepped over them as if avoiding rubbish, until they were fortunate enough to die or be scooped up by a Mother Teresa.

Julia was disturbed by the sinister undercurrents that flowed beneath the fragile co-existence of rich and poor and was puzzled by the fact that all the Indians she knew seemed unaffected. It was as if they could not see.

Julia and her rickshaw-wallah reached their destination, a grey three-story house, a little less decrepit than the other similar structures in the higgledy-piggledy warren of residential streets. Breathing a sigh and easing herself from the sweat-soaked seat, she was seized with a sudden impulse to help the rickshaw-wallah, who was wiping his face with grim relief. So in her broken Bengali, she told him to wait and rushed through the gate and into the house. She duly returned with a small parcel of food and she handed him the food, smiling. She was feeling gratified by her own generosity until she saw his unenthusiastic reception of the package at which he sullenly stared. After a few moments of embarrassed silence, Julia asked in exasperation, 'Well, what's the matter?' Five rupees, he replied without lifting his

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eyes from the silver foil. Then Julia realized her mistake. How silly of her. She groped in her pocket, muttering apologies, feeling ridiculous as the blood throbbed in her face. She found a twenty-rupee note and told him to keep the change. It seemed to Julia that she had never witnessed such happiness. His sullen, haggard features were transformed by a broad smile as he thanked her repeatedly. The incident was sealed in her memory as one of the sunniest moments in time, all clouds and shadows far away.

Nilkant Banerjee usually returned home after work at six o'clock each evening. He always looked forward to seeing his wife waiting for him, recently bathed, and smelling delightfully of Blue Grass, holding a restorative gin and tonic specially poured for him at exactly one minute before six o'clock. He loved to come home to find a clean bush-shirt laid on the bed by her fastidious white hands, find the hot, sibilant shower splattering on to the white-tiled bathroom floor, on which he would stand and feel the worries of the day rinsed away. They would go out either to the Tolley Club or dinner at the Oberoi-Grand or maybe to a light hearted Hindi romp at an air-conditioned cinema. They usually had to go out to escape the power cuts

Adapted from Sitaram, A (n.d). Naukar. Putrajaya, Malaysia. MOE

Instructions: Answer the following questions.

1. In a paragraph of about 150 words, describe Julia's feelings about India. (3 marks)

2. In your own words describe Nilkant. (3 marks)

3. Identify one metaphor in the statement:
   "Going into the city and back to her house again involved the opening and shutting of senses, like a wound that is never given a chance to heal but half-closed, half-dried, is ripped open again, by the thing that caused it in the first place." (1 mark)

4. Identify two themes in this excerpt and explain briefly why you say so. (2 marks)

Answer true or false

5. The final paragraph suggests that Nilkant was a devoted husband. (1 mark)

(10 marks)

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Question III: Poetry (10 marks)
Instructions: Read the poem below and answer **ALL** the questions that follow.

I Sing the Battle
By Harry Kemp

I SING the song of the great clean guns that belch forth death at will.
"Ah, but the wailing mothers, the lifeless forms and still!"

I sing the song of the billowing flags, the bugles that cry before.
"Ah, but the skeletons flapping rags, the lips that speak no more!"

I sing the clash of bayonets, of sabres that flash and cleave.
"And wilt thou sing the maimed ones, too, that go with pinnedup sleeve?"

I sing acclaimed generals that bring the victory home.
"Ah, but the broken bodies that drip like honey-comb!"

I sing of hosts triumphant, long ranks of marching men.

"And wilt thou sing the shadowy hosts that never march again?"

1. Identify two examples of personification. Explain what is being personified. (2 marks)

2. Find an example of alliteration. List the alliterative words. (2 marks)

3. Identify an example of metaphor and explain which two things are being compared. (1 mark)

4. In the third stanza of the poem, the speaker mentioned "pinnedup sleeves". Why would someone pin their sleeves? What is the speaker referring to? (3 marks)

5. What is the mood of this poem? (2 marks)

(10 marks)

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SECTION B: GRAMMAR [20 MARKS]

Question I: Run-ons and Parallelism (7 marks)

Instructions: The following extract contains seven (7) errors in run-ons and parallelism. **Identify these errors and correct them** as shown in the example below:

Example:

No	Line	Error	Correction
0	2	… rest, are …	… rest, but are …

City Dwellers and Hunter-Gatherers Have Similar Sleep Habits

We tend to blame the fruits of industrialized society – the Internet, mobile devices, long hours in the office — for stripping us of a good night's **rest, are** we really sleeping less now compared with our distant relatives, before iPads and PowerPoint presentations were invented?

According to a provocative new study, the answer is no. A UCLA-led team of researchers have analyzed and studying the sleep patterns of people living in three tropical, preindustrial societies still thriving today in Bolivia and Africa. You won't find a computer screen or a light bulb in these communities, people living in these pre-modern conditions have sleeping habits that are strikingly similar to your average city dweller, challenging the belief that modern society is robbing us of our natural beauty sleep.

The societies of the Hadza in northern Tanzania, the San in Namibia and the Tsimane in Bolivia all function without a single electrical outlet or cell phone. Since it's nearly impossible to study the sleeping habits of past cultures, researchers turned to these three communities to gain purely and unadulterated insights into natural human sleep cycles by modern technology.

Researchers strapped Actiwatch-2 devices on the wrists of 94 individuals living in these societies. The Actiwatch-2 is basically a wristwatch with advanced sensors that measure light exposure and activity levels to track a person's sleep patterns. Individuals wore the devices between six and 28 days. In all, researchers gathered a combined 1,165 days' worth of sleep data from the study group.

As it turns out, these people can still sleep about 6.4 hours a night on average, and they rarely took naps during the day. We tend to assume that the setting sun dictates bedtime in preindustrial societies, but these groups of people hit the sack roughly three hours after sunset. In other words, despite vastly different cultural, beliefs and technologies, human sleep habits are pretty similar.

The researchers concluded that sleep in industrial societies has not been reduced below a level that is normal for most of our species' evolutionary history, they published their findings this week in the journal Cell Press. In industrialized society, health experts have declared a national sleep crisis. Researchers are racing to understand the ways our sleep cycles are thrown off kilter, how those disruptions affect our health. It's estimated that up 70 million Americans have a serious sleep

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disorder. The notable difference in pre-modern humans was that they didn't report high rates of insomnia.

Researchers who studied the three preindustrial societies believe we could learn a thing or two about sleep disorders from them, they found that temperature, rather than the sun, seemed to be a major regulator of sleep patterns.

The lower ambient temperatures, researchers hypothesized, helped these individuals fall asleep faster because they didn't have to actively shed heat to achieve the body temperature reduction that accompanies the onset of sleep. Perhaps turning down the thermostat before tucking in at night would help us return to a more "natural" sleep pattern. There's hope, it seems, that our modern lifestyles can still accommodate our natural sleep instincts.

Adapted from Engelking, C (October 2015). City Dwellers and Hunter-Gatherers Have Similar Sleep Habits Retrieved from http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/d-brief/2015/10/15/preindustrial-sleep-habits/

Question II: Fragments and faulty modifiers (7 marks)

Instructions: The following extract contains seven (7) errors in fragments and faulty modifiers. **Identify these errors and correct them** as shown in the example below:

Example:

No	Line	Error	Correction
0	2	… the time, may …	… the time, you may …

Simple Steps to Cure Bad Breath

Whether it's waking up first thing in the morning with bad breath (dreaded morning breath), after eating certain foods or just most of **the time, may** have experienced bad breath. The cause of bad breath may be certain diseases such as diabetes, respiratory infections, infected tonsils, stomach conditions and others. Studies report comes from the mouth approximately 80 percent of bad breath (halitosis).

Bad breath can result when harmful bacteria increase to a point of breaking down proteins at a higher rate than normal. Causing sulfur compounds to accumulate. These volatile sulfur gases can cause bad breath. In this article, you will learn causes of bad breath and easy tips from a dentist on how to stop bad breath.

Brushing and flossing regularly is very important, but if you do not use the proper technique, you're wasting your time. If you run a toothbrush over your teeth three times quickly a day and floss quickly without properly cleaning under the gums, germs continue to cause bad breath and even worse, gum disease. Ask your dental professional how to floss properly. But in summary, hold a small part of the floss between your fingers, and wrap the floss around each side of the tooth and

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gently extend it under your gums. Slow up and down movements will clean these areas that a toothbrush cannot reach. Use a clean piece of floss for each tooth.

Make sure to brush your gums as well as every side of every tooth. If you can't brush after every meal, rinse with water or chew xylitol chewing gum. Brushing and flossing at night is crucial because saliva flow slows down as you sleep. Which means your mouth is more prone to attack by bacteria.

Using effective toothpaste and mouthwash is very important. Baking soda toothpaste helps stop bad breath. The benefits of baking soda toothpaste are many. It helps remove stains, helping your teeth appear whiter. For bad breath, toothpaste with baking soda helps buffer the pH of your mouth. This is important because baking soda toothpaste can help neutralize the oral environment. Not allow odour-causing germs to thrive. In the correct percentage it's also very low abrasive. If you use it by itself, not only does it taste bad but also it can be abrasive to tooth surface.

Don't think just because a product label says "natural toothpaste" that it's good for you. Many contain saccharin and/ or sodium lauryl sulfate, which can actually cause dry mouth and bad breath. For the best toothpaste and mouthwash use alcohol-free mouthwash—alcohol dries the mouth and changes the pH to what germs like. This is one reason drinking alcoholic beverages is also bad for healthy, odor free mouth. Mouthwash is excellent because it helps the flow of saliva with xylitol.

Another method is to use Xylitol natural toothpaste and mouthwash—studies report xylitol has many benefits for a healthy mouth when used regularly in toothpaste, and especially in chewing gum. It helps promote saliva. Which is good for dry mouth. It's also been shown to help prevent tooth decay.

Adapted from Stay, F (2014). Simple Steps to Cure Bad Breath. Retrieved from http://www.totalhealthmagazine.com/tag/bad-breath.html

Question III: Subject-Verb Agreement (6marks)

Instructions: The following extract contains **six (6) verb errors** in subject-verb agreement. **Identify these errors and correct them** as shown in the example below:

Example:

No	Line	Error	Correction
0	1	are	is

Your health is your wealth

We live in a rat race, which **are** a lifestyle where we're constantly exposed to stress, with increasing workloads, hectic schedules and an expensive cost of living. Long work hours, unpaid overtime, stressful jobs, less time with loved ones and the length of time spent commuting has led to emotional exhaustion. Commencing burnout in 3…2…1…

According to British psychologist Dr. Richard Wiseman, the overall pace of

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life have increased by 10 percent worldwide since the 1990s. You may even find that some places have seen an increase of 20 percent! Advancements in technology have contributed to a rise in the collective sense of urgency. The rate at which we communicate and work has increased, contribute to more stress-induced illnesses. A vicious circle, you may agree!

At bark.com, we believe in working hard. However, we also see the importance of a more harmonious work-life balance. With that, we've taken inspiration from a variety of our sellers to compile a list of alternative ways to fix ailments and keep your mind and body healthy – particularly in this hectic world we live in.

Acupuncture comes from traditional Chinese medicine and is most commonly used to treat pain. Acupuncture is a technique where thin needles are inserted into the body at specific points, to manipulate the 'flow' of energy or Qi. Like blood in the circulatory system, Qi go through the body via pathways, which are called meridians. According to the University of Miami, when factors like stress, injury or poor nutrition disrupt the regular flow of Qi, health issues follow. Acupuncture can also sometimes provide a boost in your immune system, which is key if you lead an unforgiving and fast paced lifestyle. Not only is Acupuncture good for pain, it is also a natural way to treat anxiety. Experts dealing in Chinese medicine claims that it works faster than therapy, while keeping you drug-free at the same time. If this alternative treatment is for you, why not search for an Acupuncture specialist in your area?

What do you think of when you think of Hypnotherapy? Do you see hypnotherapy as something that is associated with comedy? Do you see hypnotherapy as a way to end an addiction? What about stress relief?

Hypnotherapy is more frequently being used for stress and anxiety treatment. So if life is becoming too exhausting, maybe now is the time to search for a hypnotherapist who can help you through it. Like many alternative treatments, not only do hypnosis help to relieve and manage your stress levels, but it also aims to eliminate or reduce the problems causing the stress internally. Oftentimes, for example, there are things that have happened in the past that we have not dealt with. Hypnotherapists claim that they can help you change the way your mind tell your body to deal with certain situations – ultimately helping you to stay relaxed and in control.

Adapted from Natural health magazine. (September 2015). The Your health is your wealth. Retrieved from http://www.naturalhealthmagazine.co.uk/post/your-health-is-your-wealth

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